(a) whether the problem of shortage of LPG is due to illegal storage of LPG and oil in residential colonies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to solve the problems pertaining to LPG and oil and to check illegal storage of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) There is no shortage of LPG in the country and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) as per the genuine demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors. However, a backlog of 3-4 days has been reported in major towns of Assam due to the disruption of LPG supplies on account of bandh called by United Liberation Front of Assam on 13.2.2006 and by All Assam Student Union on 14.2.2006. OMCs have not reported any illegal storage of LPG or other petroleum products in residential colonies.

Increase in refining capacity

†258. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to increase the refinery capacity of the country to boost export;

(b) whether any action plan has been formulated in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to implement the said action plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) The refineries sector has been delicensed since June, 1998. It is for the Board of Directors of the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) to decide the programme for increasing the refining Capacity through setting up of new refineries and expansion of existing refineries.

The public sector oil companies have proposed to set up new refineries and undertake expansion projects to increase the refining capacity, as per details given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Completion of new refineries is likely to spill over the Tenth Five Year Plan.

India is a net exporter of petroleum products. During the year 2004-05, India exported 18.2 million metric tonnes (MMT) of products. With the increase in refining capacity, it is expected that India's exports would also increase in future.

Statement

Details of New Refineries

Name of the Oil Company	Location of the refinery/ project	Installed capacity in million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA)
Indian Oil Corporation Limited	Abhayachandrapur, Paradip (Orissa)	9.00
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited	Bathinda (Punjab)	9.00
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)	Bina (Madhya Pradesh)	6.00
BPCL	Lohagara, Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh)	7.00

Besides above, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), through its subsidiary Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL), have initiated efforts to consider setting up an export-oriented refinery in the coastal belt of Andhra Pradesh near Kakinada ONGC/ MRPL are also exploring the feasibility of setting up a well-head refinery in Barmer, Rajasthan.

Details of expansion projects

Name of the Refinery	Present Capacity (in MMTPA)	Expansion planned (in MMTPA)	Expected date for completion of the project
Indian Oil Corporation Limited	6	12	June-2006
(IOCL), Panipat		Further additional expansion from 12-15	March-2008

Name of the Refinery	Present Capacity (in MMTPA)	Expansion planned (in MMTPA)	Expected date for completion of the project
IOCL, Haldia	6	7.5	April-2009
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Visakh	7.5	8.3	Dec.2006/Jan. 2007
HPCL, Mumbai	5.5	7.9	Dec. 2006/Jan. 2007
Kochi Refinery Limited, Kochi	7.5	9.5	End of year 2009
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)	6.9	12	Commissioned in Aug. 2005

Scarcity in LPG supply

259. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is still a scarcity of L.P.G. supply and the refill is supplied to a consumer after a lapse of three to four months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what remedial measures are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) There is no shortage of LPG in the country and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) as per the geniune demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors. However, a backlog of 3-4 days has been reported in major towns of Assam due to the disruption of LPG supplies on account of bandh called by United Liberation Front of Assam on 13.2.2006 and by All Assam Student Union on 14.2.2006. The situation is being monitored.